

A photograph of a large dam with a rocky spillway and a forested hill in the background. The dam is a long, low structure made of concrete or stone, with a series of vertical lines running down its face. The spillway is a wide, flat area of rocks and gravel. The background is a steep, forested hill. The sky is overcast.

The Section 216 Process

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Gathright Dam

- Authorized in the River and Harbors Act of 1946
- Land Acquisition began late 1960's
- Fully operational April 1982
- Regulated to reduce flood damages downstream, increase low flows for improvements to water quality, and provide water-based recreation

Project Modifications

- Engineer Regulation (ER) 1165-2-119 defines a “Project modification” as “Changes in project operation, change in real estate interest, physical change of a project features, or changes in the purpose of a project.”

Section 216

- Section 216 of the Rivers and Harbors, Flood Control Acts of 1970:

“The Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, is authorized to review the operation of projects the construction of which has been completed and which were constructed by the Corps of Engineers in the interest of navigation, flood control, water supply, and related purposes, when found advisable due to significantly changed physical or economic conditions, and to report thereon to Congress with recommendations on the advisability of modifying the structures or their operation, and for improving the quality of the environment in the overall public interest.”

Section 216 Process

- Initial Appraisal
 - Completed June 2003*
- 905(b) Reconnaissance Report
 - Completed September 2004*
- Feasibility Study
 - Not initiated. Subject to negotiated PMP and available funding. 3-year study period if initiated*
- Implementation (if justified)